

Mails.

**OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAM-
SHIP COMPANY**

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO
JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES,
MEXICO,
CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND
EUROPE;

VIA
THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS,
AND
ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING
STEAMERS.

THE Steamship
"ARABIC"
will be despatched for San Francisco, Kobe and Yokohama, on SATURDAY, the 28th September, at NOON.
Connection will be made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.

All PARCEL PACKAGES should be marked to address in full; and the same will be received at the Company's Office until FIVE P.M. the day previous to sailing.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—
To San Francisco.....\$225.00
To San Francisco and return, } 393-75

available for 6 months.....	325.00
To Liverpool.....	325.00
To London.....	330.00
To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.	

Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

discount of 10 per cent. This allowance will not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Ports beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Offices, addressed to the Collector of Customs San Francisco.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company
No. 50A, Queen's Road Central.
C. D. HARMAN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 21st September. 1930.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVER
LAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING
AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN
FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship
"CITY OF SYDNEY"
 will be despatched for San Francisco, Yokohama, on WEDNESDAY, the 9th October, at 1 P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Through bills of Lading issued for exportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports to San Francisco, and Atlantic and Indian Cities of the United States, via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

First-class Fares granted as follows :—

To San Francisco.....	\$225.00
To San Francisco and return, } available for 6 months.....	393.75
To Liverpool.....	315.00
To London.....	320.00

To other European Ports at proportional rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and to Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan *vice versa* within one year will be allowed discount of 10 per cent. *This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.*

Freight will be received on board until 4 P. M. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 P. M. same day. All Parcel Packages should be marked to suit and dress in full value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Points beyond San Francisco, in United States, should be sent to the Company.

For further information as to Passage & Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company No. 50A, Queen's Road Central.

10th September. 1890.
For Sale.
 FOR SALE.
 FURNISHED RESIDENCE (PEAK).

"WELLBURN," on R. B. L. No. 57, a splendid view, is built of T throughout, and has a concrete Tennis Court Gas laid down.

For full particulars, apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED

Hongkong, 27th August, 1889. [I]
FOR SALE.
AT THE PEAK.
"BROCKHURST" AND SURROUNDING
LAND, COMPRISING R. B. L. No. 1.

THE HOUSE which is substantially built of brick has recently been enlarged, and commands one of the finest views in the Colony. The site is sufficiently large to allow of several other houses being built thereon. For full particulars, apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT

AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.
Hongkong, 22nd August, 1880. [11]

FOR SALE

A PHOTOGRAPHIC CAMERA, complete with accessories.

Apply to
F. BLACKHEAD & CO.

(33) Hongkong, 20th, August, 1889. (34)

Intimations.

DAKIN'S
UNRIVALLED OLD
SCOTCH WHISKY.A BLEND OF THE FINEST WHISKIES
that Scotland can produce.

Thoroughly Matured.

Per Bottle \$1. Per Dozen \$10.

SOLD ONLY BY
DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA
LIMITED,
CHEMISTS,
and
AERATED WATER
MANUFACTURERS,
HONGKONG.(Telephone No. 60.)
Hongkong, 23rd July, 1889.A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.MANUFACTURERS OF AERATED
WATERS.OUR AERATED WATER MANUFACTORY
is replete with the best Machinery, embodying
all the latest improvements in the trade.The greatest attention has been paid to appliances
for ensuring purity in the Water supply, to
secure which we have added a Condenser
capable of supplying us with 3,000 gallons of distilled
water a day, and are now in a position to compete
in quality with the best English Makers. Our
Sweet Waters cannot be surpassed anywhere.The purest ingredients only are used, and the
utmost care and cleanliness are exercised in the
manufacture throughout.FOR COAST PORTS, Waters are packed
and placed on board ship at Hongkong prices, and
the full amount allowed for Packages and Empties
when received in good order.

Counterfoil Order Books supplied on application.

COAST PORT ORDERS.
whenever practicable, are despatched by first
steamer leaving after receipt of order.Our Registered Telegraphic Address is
"DISPENSARY, HONGKONG."
And all signed messages addressed thus
will receive prompt attention.The following is a List of Waters always
kept ready in Stock:—
PURE AERATED WATER
SODA WATER
LEMONADE
POTASH WATER
SELTZER WATER
LITHIA WATER
SARSAPARILLA WATER
TONIC WATER
GINGER ALE
GINGERADE.No Credit given for bottles that are
dirty, or greasy, or that appear to have been used
for any other purpose than that of containing
Aerated Water, as such bottles are never used
again by us.WATSON'S
PURE FRUIT CORDIALS.
Prepared from the Juice of the finest selected
Fresh Ripe Fruit.Raspberry Black Currant
Strawberry Red Currant
Damson Orleans PlumPine Apple
Mellin's Cherry
Lime Fruit, &c.A table-spoonful (more or less according to
taste) added to a tumbler of plain or aerated
water forms a delicious beverage. The addition
of Wines or Spirits produce excellent and piquant
results.Price, 75 Cents per Bottle, or \$7.50 per dozen
Case Assorted.RASPBERRY SYRUP } Price,
STRAWBERRY SYRUP } \$1 per
RASPBERRY VINEGAR } Bottle.
For imparting a delicious flavour to
AERATED WATERS,
SUMMER DRINKS, &c., &c.Sole Agents for Hongkong and China for
MONTERRAT LIME FRUIT JUICE
CORDIALS.A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,
Hongkong, China, and Manila.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1889.

Mr. HENRY E. WOODHOUSE, Coroner of
this colony, is reported to have said, in
summing up the evidence adduced at the
inquiry held yesterday into the fatalities
at the fire in Wing Wo Street on Saturday
last, "that it is idle to think that the Fire
Brigade, as it at present exists, can ever
deal with such matters as the saving of
life at fires." He is further reported to
have said:—"Of course every fireman when he goes to a
fire, if there is the slightest chance of his being
able to afford protection to life as well as property,
is bound to do what he can, and I believe that
the individual firemen are always willing to
assist in that way; but for the public to expect
them to undertake the saving of life as well
as property, this is more than it is
competent for the Brigade to do, and the
real protection of life lies chiefly in the precautions
that individuals may choose to take for
themselves, and in the resources that may be
at hand at the moment, either through the neighbours
or the other occupants of the house in
flames, or in some such way; and I am not
aware that it has ever been regarded as one of
the duties of the Fire Brigade to save life beyond
the limits I have mentioned."We take the liberty of directing the
attention of His Excellency the Governor
to these remarks, and to a great deal more
to the same effect for which Mr. Woodhouse
is responsible. This Fire Brigade fooling
has gone quite far enough. At Saturday's
inquest Mr. Woodhouse appeared in the
dual character of Superintendent of the
Fire Brigade and as Coroner. As Coroner
he acquitted himself of all responsibility
for the terrible death by burning of two
women, for which as Superintendent ofthe Fire Brigade he very probably might,
on a searching investigation, have been
found not altogether blameless. It is not a
new thing in Hongkong for a Government
official to sit in judgment on himself—the
Public Works Commission, in which Mr. J.
M. Price shone to such great advantage in
protecting himself and his own interests is
only a matter of yesterday—but it is
nevertheless a practice that ought to be
discouraged. And we don't think that the
duties of Chief of the Fire Brigade and
Coroner should be vested in the same
person. As it happens, Mr. Woodhouse, in
addition to these two offices, is also Police
Magistrate and Acting Colonial Treasurer,
and he may hold a few more sinecure
appointments with which we are not
acquainted. Surely Sir WILLIAM DES
Vaux cannot regard this sort of thing as
satisfactory? In our view, it is rank
jobbery of the most disgraceful type.But let us return to our precious Fire
Brigade and its well-meaning but danger-
ously loquacious Superintendent. Mr.
Woodhouse has said, and his utterance
must be regarded as an official one, that
it is not competent for the Hongkong Fire
Brigade to undertake the saving of life as well
as property. Well, in that case, and it must
be admitted that Mr. Woodhouse is by far
the best authority in the colony on the
subject, the quicker the present Fire
Brigade is abolished, the better will it be
for the interests of the community. And
as the worthy Superintendent has publicly
stated that he is not aware it has ever
been regarded as—which means that he
does not consider it—one of the duties
of the Fire Brigade to save life at
fires, we, somewhat reluctantly we admit,
content that this officer, being quite ignorant
of the most essential part of his duties,
should be at once suspended from a position
which, on his own showing, he is quite
incapable of adequately filling. If Mr.
Woodhouse has not grossly exaggerated,
the Fire Brigade is a disgrace to the
colony. Two persons, a woman and a
girl, were burned to death on Saturday,
because it was not the business of the
Fire Brigade to save life! The rescue
of rotten furniture and what is known
as property is the *raison d'être* of the
Hongkong Fire Brigade, which, by the
way, is a public institution, supported and
paid for by the community. If Governor
Des Vaux cannot see his way to remove
this scandal from our midst, we would fain
believe that there is at least one honest
and independent man in the Legislative
Council who will insist on a thorough
reform in the matters to which we have
just briefly alluded.

TELEGRAMS.

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

LONDON, September 23rd.
General Boulanger has a majority in Mont-
martre, but a second ballot is necessary. The
clergy are supporting Boulanger's party. Four
Boulangists have been elected in Paris.

(Special despatch to Hongkong Telegraph.)

THE BURNING OF THE "ALTAR TO
HEAVEN."

PEKING, September 24th.

Two men have been arrested on suspicion
of having set fire to "Pien-tien" (the Emperor's
Altar to Heaven), the "Chien-tien" (the
Temple of Sacrifices of the Year).A memorial had previously been sent into
the Throne by two Censors to the effect that the
fire had been caused by lightning.It is fortunate for China and the cause of
railways that, as set out in the above special
telegram from our Peking correspondent, two
men have been arrested on suspicion of
arson, and that the fire to the buildings
outside the Cheng Yang gate, containing the
Imperial Altar to Heaven, the temple for making
prayers for a successful year, and the temple to
the god of Agriculture, was not the result of the
being struck by lightning or "heavenly fire" as
the Chinese phrase goes. Those who have any
acquaintance with the folk-lore of the Chinese will
understand us when we say that it is a universal
superstition of the country to attribute lightning
as the direct instrument of heavenly vengeance and
displeasure. Thus a man struck by lightning is
always given the credit of having laid careful
plans to murder a friend or relative, which
crime, if accomplished, would never see the light
of day, but which had been averted by the thunder-
bolt of the Almighty. Such a calamity at this
important juncture, with the success of the
proposed railway system for China the question of
the hour, would have been incalculable in the
memorial of the two Censors mentioned in
the above telegram obtained credence amongst the
superstitions of those around the Emperor, and
also amongst the Peking masses. Such a
memorial would no doubt state that the Altar to
Heaven being struck by lightning was direct
evidence of the wrath of heaven against the
wholesale introduction of railways into the
empire, and that the very proof of the assertion
was shown in the destruction by "heavenly
fire" of the very altar dedicated to its use!Fortunately for all concerned, especially for
those who have been active promoters of the
railway scheme, two men have been arrested on
suspicion of having set fire to these sacred
monuments of Chinese reverence, which must
go a long way towards dispelling the first
superstitious idea of anything supernatural; and
thus, although the fire might have been caused
by lightning, the first excitement of the affair
having passed, any subsequent theory set forth
by such obstructionists as the Censors and other
gentlemen of that ilk, will be a matter of utter
indifference to the people and the great body of
officials (so far as our knowledge of them goes)
who have other things to think of than knocking
their heads—only to be broken in the attempt—
against the expressed wishes of the Emperor,
Dowager and her cohorts of progressive advisers.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

To-morrow and Friday are the Jewish New
Year days.FROM THE JAPAN OFFICIAL GAZETTE.—Last year
there were sixteen brick factories in Tokyo,
which turned out 173,835 pieces of brick
valued at yen 101,741.The Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co.
courteously informs us that the steamship
Peshawur, with the next English mail, left
Singapore for this port at 8 a.m. to-day.The quantity of coal consumed in Tokyo last
year was 362,341,887.33 Kins, of which 265,258,
405.88 Kins were consumed by locomotives, and
48,665,236.17 Kins by various factories.The new steamer Pao Ching, built by Messrs.
Farnham & Co. of Shanghai for the Yangtze
traffic, and which ran a successful trial trip the
other day, is said to be a great credit to her
builders.The share dealing case of Brandt v. Grinblatt,
nearly heard before Mr. A. G. Wise, Acting
Puisne Judge, in the Summary Court yesterday,
will require some criticism later on. At present
we can only carefully peruse the evidence and
smile serenely.The Peking Gazette says, it is reported that the
Netherlands Indian Government intended to dis-
patch a large number of troops to Achene, but
that the fact that cholera and beriberi have
broken out there, may possibly delay the carrying
out of this intention.According to a native paper, the out-put of coal
from the mines of Onga, Kurata, Kama, Homi,
and Tagawa, in Fukoku Prefecture, worked
by the Nichiku Mining Association during the
first half of this year, 134,484 tons, showing
an increase of more than 60,000 tons, as com-
pared with the same period last year.The Korean Government have, we hear, sent
three of their most promising youths to Japan
to study the science of mining engineering. They
are expected to finish their studies within the
space of three years, when it is the King of
Korea's intention to appoint them Directors or
Supervisors of the whole mining system in the
Hermit Kingdom.The pompous Editor of the China Mail has,
after all his blarney, faked facing a jury of
his fellow citizens. Last week he would it
is another illustration of the old fable of the
lion's skin. But is the writer of the letter
signed "Editor" as feeble a specimen of humanity
as the Editor who, for reasons not stated,
"declined to answer?" If not, why does he
not come forward and show that at least he
possesses the courage of his opinions.It would appear that Shanghai is still a long
way in front of Hongkong in the ship-building
line—vide the report of the trial trip of the
steamer Pao Ching printed in another part of
this issue. Doubtless the cause of this is that
our local Dock Company has never had a chance
of constructing a steamer of over 1,000 tons.
The Directors of the Steamboat Company, who
have made every cent they possess out of local
enterprise prefer to pay a much larger price in
Scotland for their steamers, rather than give the
Dock Company a chance. But the gilded monopoly
of Messrs. Bellis & Co. has almost run
its course.Another man who knows all about it, Capt.
F. Watkins, of the Inman Line steamship City
of Paris, says that fore-and-aft canvas is of no
assistance to a fast steamer, not even for steady-
ing purposes. Instead of increasing the speed,
he says the spars and sails frequently retard a
steamer as much as a mile an hour, and within
a few years, he expects to note the absence of
both canvas and spars from all the ocean liners.
And within a few years we expect that Watkins
will be with the angels, and ocean steamers still
carrying fore-and-aft sails, not merely for steady-
ing purposes, but as a protection in the case of
break-downs.If "A Law Student," who has been lately
sending some correspondence to our morning
contemporary, that first class impostor, the
Law Revision Committee, could only be induced
to leave the region of inconsequent twaddle and
state in plain English what steps ought to be
taken to be taken to have our Ordinances set
into ship-shape form, some good might accrue.
What beneficial results does "A Law Student"
expect to obtain by superficial references to what
acts might or might not be introduced into this
colony with advantage? What we want is to
have the laws already existing put in a form
that anybody can understand them. If any
additions or improvements are required, the
Legislative Council should be applied to.However, we are glad to see "A Law Student,"
our morning contemporary, and others, following
the lead we gave them what steps ought to be
taken to be taken to have our Ordinances set
into ship-shape form, some good might accrue.
What beneficial results does "A Law Student"
expect to obtain by superficial references to what
acts might or might not be introduced into this
colony with advantage? What we want is to
have the laws already existing put in a form
that anybody can understand them. If any
additions or improvements are required, the
Legislative Council should be applied to.In reference to the reports which have appeared
concerning the fire on board the steamship
Japan the following, says an eye-witness, are the
true facts of the case:—About 5.15 a.m. on the
24th instant, the Captain, who was sleeping on
the poop, observed smoke issuing from the
ventilator and at once gave the alarm of fire.
All hands were immediately called aft and Mr.
Pallett, the chief officer, immediately went below
to search for the seat of the fire, but was driven
back by the overpowering fumes of what proved
to be the burning poppy refuse in which the
opium is packed. Having tied a towel over his
mouth, Mr. Pallett made a second attempt,
and discovered the fire to be situated right aft
in the lower hold, in the way of a small hatch.
Two crew members, who were brought to bear upon
the fire, which was burning with great violence,
after breaking up four chests which were in the
square of the hatch from which the opium had
been taken, the fire was extinguished. The
hatch itself, and the under-side of the lower
deck for some distance round it, was much
charred, but beyond this the ship was uninjured.The chief officer, almost immediately
after discovering the seat of the fire, also
found out that it was the work of thieves and
incendiaries. On putting his hand on the
smoking cargo, his arm went into an opium
chest from which the opium had been extracted,
and he subsequently found three others which
merely contained the refuse poppy-leaf used for
packing purposes. The fire had been started in
three different places, but owing to the confined
space and the absence of any draught, had never
burst into actual flames. One of the gang had
managed to secrete himself in the lower hold
when the hatches were secured at midnight, and
after all was quiet, he opened the off-shore door
and poured a quantity of kerosene upon the
cargo, and then set it on fire, having taken
out the contents of four opium chests, and
emptied four bags of betel-nuts into the hold,
put the opium balls into the bags, and made
good their escape after having set fire to the
ship round the broken chests, which had been
put back in their original positions, to hide the
fact of a robbery having been committed. The
men and opium have been caught. The states-
man published in the China Mail and Daily
Press regarding the chief engineer and the
chief officer appeared on the scene after the
fire was got under. Steam was on the donkey
engine for cargo-working purposes, but the fire
was put out by water from a hose connected to
a down-pump on deck, and which was worked
by the hands of the sailors.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CANTON, 23rd September, 1889.

According to current report it is unlikely the
Viceroy will be relieved before January next.
In compliance with the Viceroy Chang's request,
Li Han-chang will not hurry his arrival at
Canton. His Excellency is expected to reach
Nanking to-day, where he will spend two months
vacation, which it is stated he has been granted,
in the magnificent palace he built some few
years ago. His Excellency will also enjoy the
advantage during his stay at Nanking of con-
sulting with his fast friend the Viceroy
Tsung Kwo-chang, regarding railways and
other important matters now on the tapis.
Etiquette prescribes forty days as the period
high mandarin is to occupy travelling overland
between Nanking and Canton, so that if our
new Viceroy starts from the capital of
Kiangsu at the expiration of his present leave,
he should arrive here about the first week in
January next.Great efforts are being made to complete the
naval school building and get it passed before
the advent of the new Viceroy. Mr. Tai Shih
Yung, Chang Chih-tung's trusted Secretary,
devoted last Sunday to a personal inspection of
the building at Whampoa, and strongly urged
the hurrying on of the work. The scamping
matter I chronicled in a previous letter, which so
aroused Viceroy Chang's ire has apparently been
treated in that accommodating manner so
peculiarly Chinese.The new cartridge factory to the northwest of
the city is progressing, and an appropriation of
taels 40,000 has been made for it. The plant is
of a mixed description; a portion of which was
ordered from Germany came from England after
all, and bears the name of Messrs. Archibald
of Birmingham.That other pet scheme of the Viceroy's—the
copper Cash Mint has apparently entered its
collapsing stage during the past week, by the
discharge of the whole foreign staff, with the
exception of Mr. Wyon whose period of service does
not expire until the end of November. Mr.
Kaw Hong-Beng, who is well-known in
Hongkong and Shanghai, played a leading
role in the final act of eliminating the
foreign control of the Mint, and the pro-
ceeding was not without some amusing as well
as instructive features. To all appearance the
Canton authorities, by the survey treatment
meted out to the foreign staff of the Mint, fail to
appreciate what has been done for them by the
four Englishmen comprising the foreign
staff during a period of about eighteen months.
Where the Mint stands was a paddy swamp,
and there are now substantial brick buildings,
covering an area of ten acres, enclosing a
complete Mint plant, the largest of its kind in
the world. The first brick was laid in March,
1888; in February of this year the first casting
of coin was made, and up to the present time some
eighty million pieces of silver, converted
into dollars, half dollars, and subsidiary coinage.
Not only has this been done through the
individual efforts of four Englishmen, but during
the whole time against the passive opposition
of the officials, who did much to impede the
work. Evidently the Chinese authorities consider
they have been sufficiently instructed to man-
ipulate the Mint in future, although it has
already been clearly demonstrated that it
cannot be worked upon legitimate principles
without serious loss. Whatever doubt there
might be as to the correctness of the con-
clusion reached in this matter, by the
Canton authorities, would seem to be dispelled
by the significant fact that in paying off their
foreign staff on Saturday last, not less an amount
than one per cent. in base coin and short weight,
was discovered by the local agents of the Hong-
kong and Shanghai Bank to exist in the monies
paid out by the Imperial Mint authorities. It
certainly shows that in the shroffage alone of
this establishment (by no means an unimportant
adjunct of a Mint) there remains much to
be taught, and that, if it is considered necessary
that the establishment should deserve public
confidence. It is, however, fair to state that
this perhaps trivial circumstance was promptly
set right, on the attention of the authorities being
called to it.To meet some of the losses sustained by the
Mint, a novel expedient has been adopted by His
Excellency the Viceroy, namely, to make dis-
bursements from the Treasury with a proportion
of copper-cash at 1000 to the tael and not to the
dollar, the normal intrinsic value. Of course
the minor officials will take care to make the
difference up by some means or other, and the effect
cannot fail to be to prove demoralising and far
reaching in its consequences. The Viceroy's finan-
cial policy has also received checks lately from
two different quarters. The proposed in-
crease of the *kuin* has somewhat ignominiously
collapsed. In this connection it does
not speak much for the Viceroy's greatly
vaunted defensive resources of this pro-
vince, when to meet a petty local riot on
account of the imposition of an obnoxious tax,
His Excellency found himself so completely
helpless that at twenty-four hours notice he
had to indent upon Hongkong for about
twenty British-owned launches to preserve the
peace. In the second instance, the sale of the
Examination Hall has had to be abandoned
in consequence of the determined front of the
liu-tai both here and at Peking.Altogether, there are indications that Chang
Chih-tung's rule of the Liang-kuang will not
turn out to have been so beneficial to the state,
as some are desirous of making out.We think that our correspondent might perhaps have
had the "family feud" of the Li's in mind, when writing about
the police at Nanking. This building goes by the name of "Li
Chih-tung's" and is the residence of the Li family, who are
the most powerful of the city of Nanking, the capital of Anhui,
which is about the officers' situation about ten miles from
the city of Nanking, it was built at a cost of 40,000
taels.—Ed. H.K. Telegraph.TRIAL TRIP OF THE
"PAO CHING."A very pleasant afternoon, says our Shanghai
morning contemporary of the 19th inst., was
spent yesterday by some forty foreign men, and
a number of Chinese who had been invited by
Messrs. S. C. Farnham & Co. to proceed on the
trial trip of the twin screw steamer Pao Ching
which is to be the "Pao Ching" and "Pao Ching"
to the list of vessels engaged on the Yangtze.
The Pao Ching, official number 72,814, is a
steamer of 1,072 3/4 tons register and is
200 feet long, 30 feet beam and 38 feet over all,
and 12 feet depth of hold, with a mean draft of 5
ft. 6 inches. She is built of mild steel up to the
main deck, the rest, with the decks, being Oregon
plate with teak girders and covering boards. She
has two pole masts. Her engines, of which she
has two pairs, are of the inverted direct-acting
surface condensing type, of 60 horsepower nominal,
and the cylinders are 46 and 32 inches diameter with a stroke of 18 inches.
She has one mild steel boiler with three ribbed
furnaces. On the spar deck, which extends
three-fourths of the length of the ship, are the
wheel-house, captain's, officers' and engineers' rooms,
the saloon, a compact pantry, a bath-
room and a first-class passenger cabin with
two bunks in it. These are all built of Oregon
plate with teak-work furnishings. The saloon,
which is about the officers' room, extends
across the spar deck-house.
The cabin is comfortable, and is fitted with a long table,
settee, steam heater and buffet with plate mirror
the panels and ceiling are painted white, picked
out with gold, and there is oil cloth on the floor.Forward is the wheel-house, with the captain's
cabin abaft it, while the passengers' cabin and
the bath-room are at the after end of the house.
All the rooms are comfortable and each is fitted
with a bunk, a chest-of-drawers, a steam heater,
a settee, and some of them have A. & R. Smith's
patent lavatories. A bath of this house is a long
skylight to give light to the Chinese accommo-
dation on the upper deck, and abaft this again
are a water service tank, three companion ways,
the engine room skylight, and another long
skylight. The boats, four in number, are also
on the spar deck, two being amidships, and the
other two aft. Forward, under the saloon and
on the upper deck is the Chinese saloon with
twelve cabins, some of them having four bunks
in them, and others are to be used as smoking
divans. This saloon opens out on to the fore-
castle, which has a tank deck. Aboard of the
Chinese saloon and forward of the funnel is the
Chinese second-class accommodation, fitted
with fifty-six bunks, while further aft is
further Chinese accommodation with
ninety-six bunks. The after peak is fitted as a
treasure room, and the fore one as the ship's store
room, and on both sides of the engine room
casing are other rooms, some used as galleys, and
others as native bath-rooms, lamp and store-
rooms, native W.C.'s and an engineers' store-
room, so that all the space in the ship, not required
for cargo, has been utilised. There are two
small rooms on the main deck, one of which is
ways to the lower hold, while the ventilation of
the passengers' saloons and the engine-room
has not been forgotten. In the fore-castle is a
Clark, Chapman & Co.'s steam windlass with a
high speed capstan.The Pao Ching got away from the C. M. S. N.
Co.'s lower wharf at 2.30 p.m. and steamed down
river just at the commencement of the flood tide,
and passed the Bar at 3.30. On the way down,
she ran on the measured mile, which she did in
51 minutes. The Woosung Spit Buoy was
rounded at 3.57 p.m., and on the way back she
was again timed on the measured mile, which
with 120 tons dead weight on board, she did
in 5 minutes, the engines making 116 revolutions,
and the boiler carrying 90 lbs. of steam,
which was maintained all through. Everything
worked smoothly and well, not a hitch
occurring during the whole trip. Soon after
5.15 the Pao Ching's organ whistled was sounded,
and the vessel was made fast to the C.M.'s lower
wharf at 5.30, the passengers being all well
satisfied with their outing. Just before landing a
few toasts were proposed. Mr. Galle, for the
builders, proposed the success of the Pao Ching,
and Mr. Huse, for the owners, responded. He
said there was plenty of room for steamers on the
Yangtze, for which trade the Pao Ching is in-
tended, without undue competition, and he trusted
that with the improved relations with the Chinese
Government, steam communication would be
still further developed. He said he believed that
increased communication by rail and ships
would bring increased prosperity to the country,
and concluded by proposing the health of the
builders of the steamer. Mr. Twentymann was
called upon to reply, which he did in a humorous
speech, which was interspersed with some
jocular remarks by his listeners.The vessel and engines have been entirely
built by Messrs. Farnham & Co.

SPORTING NOTES.

A correspondent sends the following to the
Shanghai Mercury of the 19th inst.:—Things seem very quiet at the rails this season,
doubtless owing to there being so few griffins.
All the life and fun seems to be knocked out of
the whole thing, a very different state of affairs
to a few years back, when everyone was interested
in some sort of a smoke; take away Sassoon,
Buxey, Humphreys and Ewo, and nothing seems
left. The Doctor is gone; Mr. King has only a
griffin or two against what he invariably used to
have; Mr. Chouffeur is the only one who still seems
to be determined not to be left out in the cold.
Only two mobs of griffins arrived from the
North, and the levithan stable bought all the
best ones (no one could get anything that
possessed any racing points; sheer weight of
metal carried the day against all bidders), so that
so far no one else seems to have chance of win-
ning a griffin race. For the well race of the
meeting, the St. Leger, there is every prospect of
a fine struggle, as all the spring candidates are
all right so far. Zephyr has not, however, quite
lost the knowing ones, but I think it is only
owing to grossness that he does not go so kindly,
as he did last spring, for he always does the last
quarter in 32 seconds when asked to do so.Elegant is looking very big, and until a com-
panion was sent with him, absolutely refused to
go to gallop. He is now in physic.Vigour, at present in physic, has been going
first class and, but accidents, ought to make it hot
for anything, with his light weight of 108 lbs.Visitant, just out of physic, looks a mass of
muscle, but I regard him as more of a mile pony.Pao-shing looks exceedingly well and moves
all right, but under Mr. Minor Lake's careful
management is not likely to do anything startling
for a good time yet.Azale is in good order, and has evidently not
lost his action, as 2.14 for a mile yesterday will
testify.Busybudy went for a quarter yesterday for first
time after physic, and quite pleased everyone by
his style. This is another pony which only
carries the bottom weight.Home Guard looks much improved since the
spring and moves in very nice style, always
finishing strong. He also has been chiefly con-
fined to slow canters, a wise policy I should say,
for he looks too fit.Challenger, I am sorry to hear, is under
suspicion. I trust he will be there on the day,
however.Golden Hope, the Tientsin Spring Meeting's
crack, has been bought for the Ewo stable for a
long price. I don't think, however, that he is
another Orlando.I may have something further to tell you when
the ponies have settled down to do their times.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.

The prison in the Yamen of the Commissioner
of Justice at Canton having become rotten and
dilapidated through old age it has been decided
to repair it, the thoughtless has offering a new
inducement to old gao-birds.Owing to the distress of the sufferers from the
Yellow River flood in Shanghai, the Chinese
Government has given its assent to the Memorial of
the Governor of that province for the prohibition of
the manufacture, in Shanghai, of wine made
from barley and other cereals.The Lau Yuen theatre, a building nearly 200
feet long, situated in the public gardens of that
name at Honan, caught fire at about 11 o'clock
last Saturday night, and was totally destroyed
before the fire engines appeared on the scene of
the conflagration. Fortunately, this building
was an isolated one, the ground around it con-
taining only shrubs and plants, and so the
only damage done was to the building itself.
It is believed that the fire was the work of
incendiaries.While the residents of one of the western dis-
tricts of the city of Canton were on the 21st
last Friday night, on account of a fracas between
the guardians of the public peace and a gang of
marauders who had entered a house of ill fame,

HANGCHOW.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

10th September, 1889.

To-day closes the examination which have
been the great topic of interest in this city, and has
filled it with about fifteen thousand strangers for
two weeks past. The region near the examina-
tion hall is like a vast bazaar, filled with things
valuable and attractive to the scholars. There
is a large display of books, printed by the litho-
graph process, at sixty shops.On the first day of the eighth moon the two
Imperial Examining Commissioners entered the
city. Their chairs were sealed up, indicating
that they were not free to talk to anyone, lest their
decisions in the coming examination should be
influenced. They were received by the Governor
and assigned quarters in the city. On the sixth
of the present moon, a grand procession was
formed at their quarters to escort them to the
examination hall. The whole city turned out to
see the grand sight, and the streets along which
it was to pass were thronged with people. The
officials are dressed in their gayest clothing and
ride in the genii chairs—open chairs with tiger
rugs thrown over the seats, and small images of
tigers for footrests. The tiger rugs on this
occasion were simply cotton cloths bearing a dim
representation of the royal Bengal skin.The first in the procession is the City Prefect,
then follow in order the Intendant of Circuit, the
Criminal Judge, the Treasurer, the first and
second Examining Commissioners, and last the
Governor. The first two and the last enter the
hall with the Commissioners and remain to the
close of the examination. The others simply
escort them to the entrance of the hall.On entering the hall, the officials and exam-
iners pay their respects to the tablet of the fox,
who is regarded as the presiding genius over
literary affairs. This is to secure his assistance
in their difficult and delicate duties.

On the eighth day of the

private individuals is on the face of it impertinent. This bombastic statement would not have mattered if the paramount lessee had only looked after the ground, instead of allowing that existing buildings be done to the lot-holders; but meanwhile the whole foregoing, including not only the British Settlement but the Customs property and the town of Yung-tzu, is more or less jeopardized by the inactivity and neglect which have been the order of the day for so many years. The Customs authorities have worked well and ably to maintain their property, and fortunately there is no lack of means; but the pity is that the heavy expenses could have been saved, and were not.

There is an old story that a railway will soon be projected between this and Shan Hai Kuan, the sea boundary of the Great Wall, and also between here and Lü Shun Ko, or Port Arthur. They are both good lines for military purposes, but the best paying line commercially, would no doubt be from this town to the capital of Manchuria, Moukden, as a commencement—a distance of only 120 miles; thence to Kirin and on to the Russian encroachments on the Amoor. Such lines are to be recommended not only as paying lines on account of the enormous traffic, but as a means of putting armies and guns where they will soon be needed. The Chinese are sure to wait too long, and the Russians will complete their high railway and upset the Empire before the Celestial comences operations.

Produce has gone down greatly in price on account of the large quantities of grain expected from the interior, and orders for chartering tonnage, whilst this has been cheaply, will not doubt be forwarded.—N. C. Daily News.

TIENTSIN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The prospectus of the Taku Tug and Lighter Co., Limited, is rather amusing to those who know a little of the working, and I am inclined to think there are a few mistakes in it. It states—

1.—"It is proposed to acquire the tugs, lighters, land, godowns, and other buildings, docks, &c."

2.—"The land comprises three lots, situated at Pilot Town."

3.—"The docks, which adjoin Pilot Town and cover a large area, &c."

4.—"The Taku Tug and Lighter Co. have agreed to accept Tls. 400,000 for their landed property, &c."

Now I have always been under the belief that the land upon which these buildings stand, and the land which they use for their docks are the property of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co., and that the Lighter Co. pay rent for it, and can be turned out at 6 months notice. If this is correct the mistake ought to be rectified, and the land was a portion of their property. As far as I am aware, the Chinese have never sold any of their land to a Taku. The pilots pay a rent of Tls. 20 a year each for the land on which their houses stand, which land also belongs to the China Merchants. The pilots have no lease of the land for any length of time. I see the Taku Hotel Co. also say in their prospectus that they buy the land as well as buildings, &c. I am under the impression that the land also belongs to the China Merchants, but perhaps I am wrong.

At any rate as the public are asked to take up the shares in both Companies it is only right that they should know for certain if the land will belong to them or not. If they have a lease for any length of time, it would be most disastrous if they suddenly received a notice to quit at a short time.

September 14th, 1889.

As yet no steamers have succeeded in reaching the Bund at Tientsin, and it is known that the *Poohai* and *El Dorado*, both due at the Bar this evening, will endeavour to do so, and will engage a tug-steamers to assist them. The water is falling at Tientsin, and the current is less strong, but the channel is deepened sufficiently to allow of the tug-steamers can also get up. The British schooner *Isis* is still at the Bund and is supposed to leave to-day. If the steamers do not yet to Tientsin before the end of this month, it is very doubtful if they will get up this year. It is stated that the Municipal Council are losing at the rate of Tls. 500 to 600 a month of their revenue by the steamers not getting to the Bund. They may wish they had not built the monster Town Hall, and which, I hear, will cost at least a half more than the original estimate in the case of extra work. The steamer anchorage at the Bund is now connected with Tientsin by a telephone from the office of the Taku Tug and Lighter Co. Steamers are having great difficulty in discharging, and are greatly detained at times.

The Tug and Lighter Co. cannot do the work in the river and outside of the Bar. The native boats will not take large packages, and say 3 cents does not pay them. If the steamers cannot reach the Bund at the close of the season, and there is a rush of cargo, a great deal of it will not get up this season. Why do not the steamers discharge at the Raikow Wharf and send up this discharge by train? The Railway Company would be only too glad to arrange as to terms.

The Gas Co. in Tientsin are going on fairly well, and it is anticipated that the Concession will be let up by December this year. A fine lot of land in the Concession is for sale, the lot in which the present Club stands, but the price is high. An ex-concession lot known as Henderson lot, and which was formerly the Club for many years, has been sold to a Shanghai firm.

The Victory Li Hung-chang will proceed to Peking in a few days, or as soon as he can get away. It is stated here, as a fact, that he is in a very poor state of health, and has lately only done what he cannot possibly help in the way of work. This is what the Chinese say in Tientsin, and they are generally correct. Our Harbour Master and Tide Surveyor, Mr. R. Trannack, has been ordered to Chinkiang, Mr. Kindblad of Chetoo taking his place, and Mr. Parkhill goes to Chetoo.—Shanghai Mercury.

PERING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Our hot weather has as yet moderated but little. The nights are certainly cooler, but the days still remain very warm. We have no heavy and long continued rainy weather as is usually the case. The millet crops are in excellent condition, and the prices of the cereals and straw have fallen considerably. The excellence therefore of the later crops will compensate for the very poor wheat harvest.

I have observed lately in the home papers continued proof of the ignorance regarding China which reigns even in the best informed quarters. I read Mr. James Paine's amusing but incorrect paragraph in the *Illustrated London News*, regarding the honours and presents made by the Empress Dowager to the Foreign Ministers and Inspector-General of Customs. Much that might have been nearer the truth as applied to the latter was ascribed to the British Minister. Possibly Mr. Paine imagined Sir Robert Hart was British Minister. The usually well informed *Spectator* makes ridiculous mistakes when writing about the Empress Dowager. You yourself have

already pointed out some of these. The Manchurian ladies have, of course, all natural feet, and it is not uncommon for the Empress to leave the Palace on a visit to her relations outside. As for example to her brother-in-law the Seventh Prince. Lately she, with the Emperor, has made frequent visits to Wan Shou Shan. Again, in regard to the concession granted to work coal and timber in Formosa to the Sub-Prefect T'eng, nephew of the Viceroy of Nanking and Tang (?), and which has gone the round of the newspapers, the person has been the family name of the Viceroy T'eng is no relation whatever. There is an official of the same family name in Yunnan who is constantly assumed to be a son of the great T'eng Kuo-fan. There is also much confusion about the Ampa or Amban in Tibet. The present official Sheng-tai, who has begun and is carrying on the negotiations, is the Vice-Resident, his chief having been recalled when the officer in the Chang Heng, was appointed in his place, whose arrival in Tibet was anticipated for some time, and in which was expected to be before this time. The *London and China Express* cannot understand this, and asserts that no such official has been appointed to supersede the present occupant.

Another quite absurd notion, in this case of distance, is stated by the same usually well-informed paper in the reported interview with General Annenkoff, projector of the Siberian Railway, who is made to say that the journey from Wladivostok to Peking taken by rail, would be made in 10 days, a street constable, but on an officer of the native Customs, a man of means and offering a great temptation to robbers. Over two thousand taels, in precious stones, were stolen. Mr. Li is ashamed to confess how he has lost them, because of unpleasant questions that might be asked as to how he became possessed of such wealth. Since then, the same man's house has been surrounded at night with robbers, who placed guns, swords, etc. round his door, thereby indicating that they meant to take his life. He has been obliged secretly to remove his residence to another part of the city, hoping thereby to elude the vigilance of his enemies. The injured eye is hopelessly gone, and the revolver bullet is apparently lodged in the large cavity in the upper maxillary bone. Six of the gang of nine thieves who attacked him have since been apprehended, and will doubtless lose their heads.

The statement that the proposed French loan to the Korean Government broke down in consequence of the row relating to a servant of the French Resident Minister, will be found perhaps to be not quite correct.

In the *Shih Pao* it is incorrectly stated that the indisposition of H.E. the Marquis Tsing has been owing to the spitting of blood from the lungs. This has necessarily caused much anxiety among his numerous friends. It need not here be said that the statement is wholly without foundation. H.E. is in perfect health and in the full discharge of all his duties.

Some of our residents, the members of the German Legation and some of the missionaries, have already returned to the city. Mr. Howard has left us for a tour of inspection of the consular prior to his return to Europe in November.

Sir M. E. Grant Duff, in a "Bird's-eye View of India" in the *Nineteenth Century* for June, speaks of the opium revenue, informs us as a fact that a single province of Western China (Szechuan) produces more of that valuable drug than the whole of our dominions. It may be so, but I should like to know upon what figures he bases so decided a statement. He admits that many of the ideas now entertained about opium at home, descend from the period when it was smuggled into China. He adds, "So far as that now from being a case, that for the last two years every chest sent from India pays more than three times to the Chinese Government at the port of export, what it did before February, 1887." But why does the writer not add that all internal taxation was remitted as a *quid pro quo* for the collection of the entire duties at the port of import, and that Indian opium can now pass freely throughout the Empire? If the Central Government has gained by this arrangement the provincial treasuries have lost. An interesting question arises—why was it legalized? This brings up the old question: was force employed to compel the Chinese to receive the drug, or was it legalized as a "fact" and take it legalise it so as to give us "fact" and take it away from the Chinese? The statements a few days ago in your columns, and those in your northern contemporary *so far as they go* are absolutely correct in relation to the attitude of the Chinese negotiators at the time. But do this admission and their statements settle the question? Not by any means. There is more behind it. The Chinese negotiators were mere children in diplomacy; they understood nothing of international law, were terribly afraid, knew their country had twice suffered defeat, and they along with their countrymen held, without exception, the firm belief that these wars were against an object that to have the right to import still more of what the people termed the "black earth." In such a view of the case, the acquiescence of the officials in the insertion of opium in the tariff and fixing of a remarkably low rate of duty is not to be wondered at. They said to themselves, "The foreigners will have their way, and we must submit, or suffer still more serious consequences." I remember, at the time of the appearance of these letters, asking a series of questions on the subject of the cause of the war, and whether in Chinese opinion force had been applied. The answers which I received from about one hundred officials whom I consulted, and who were conversant with all the details of the question, were certainly not flattering to us. And even now, after a lapse of a quarter of a century and with new arrangements in working order, China will still tell you she is not free to do with opium as she thinks fit, either to increase the duty or prohibit it altogether. It was a speech of Dr. Legge's, if I remember rightly, in 1880, that brought out the letter of Mr. Oliphant to the *Times*, which has been so frequently since quoted in support of the contention that the Chinese had no force applied to them when opium was inserted in the tariff of the Treaty of Tientsin. Mr. Oliphant's letter was quoted in the late debate in the House on Mr. Samuel Smith's anti-opium motion. Dr. Legge has since, at the late annual meeting of the Anti-Opium Society, exposed the fallacy of this view, quoting from the official correspondence published at the time and from the letter account of the Emperor's accession to the throne and of his marriage, extra examinations in degrees for the three *Shih*, the *Tung* (B.A.), the *Hsiang* (M.A.), and the *Hwei* (Doctor) have been held. The Bachelor provincial examinations are finished; the Master of Arts is now being held all over the Empire at the same time, and next spring, in the third moon, the extra Doctor examination will be held. The B.A. examination is held at any time in each *fu*, the M.A. examination, every three years, at the time of the provincial capital in the 8th moon at the same time, and the Doctor's degree is held every three years at Peking. Over twelve thousand B.A.'s have now entered the examination halls. Those B.A.'s from the provinces who come up to the capital get admission to the examination by payment of Tls. 108. The reason for desiring to pass at the capital is that

a larger number are passed. With the same number of B.A.'s in Shanghai, not more than some 70 can pass, whereas at Peking, Chihli is allowed over 200. This number does not include the *Banner-men*, who pass in the proportion of about one in twenty; all others pass in the proportion of one in sixty. These honours are bestowed irrespective of provinces. In the case of specially large contributions towards famine relief or repair of the Yellow River, or such like work from any province, the Emperor will grant that province the right of adding two to the fixed number of their M.A. graduates. The number thus added rarely exceeds two; a few years ago it was thought remarkable when the right to have eight more was added to one province.

If a larger number than usual should present themselves for the two lower degrees, thus indicating a greater literary activity in the province, the Emperor also orders an increase in the allowance of graduates who pass. Those who pass together become brothers, as it were, and their children also. Although the population of a province should diminish, the number of her sons who can graduate is not diminished. The *huns* or districts in each *fu* have also a definite number of B.A. degrees allotted to them. It never happens that any *huns* have fewer applicants for honours than by statute are allowed. In regard to the military examinations, however, it frequently happens so, and then the magistrate makes up the number from his own choice. The M.A. examiners for the present term are the following:—(1) Pan-tsu-yin, the President of the Board of Works, whose place is filled in the interim (forty days) by Sun-chia-nai; (2) Sun-ching, left Vice-President of the Board of Revenue, whose place is supplied by Liao Shou-heng; (3) Sung Shen, the President of the Colonial office, whose *locum tenens* is Kwei-tung; (4) Hsi-tung, President of the Board of Civil Appointments and Acting President of the Board of Revenue; his substitute in the *Li* Board is Hsi Keng Shen; (5) Hsi-tung-kwei, the left Vice-President of the Board of Civil Appointments, whose representative is the Marquis Tsing.

One of the letter deliverers of the Customs was thrown into prison a few days ago, where he now remains, his offence being that he delivered a letter of an abusive character to the head eunuch of the Palace. The letter, the third of the same sort, had been posted at Tientsin and the postman was held responsible for the writer. The Customs have taken action to recover their letter, and the writer is still in prison. The postman would have been badly if they were to be held responsible for all the abusive and unwelcome letters that are sent.

To-day, the 15th Sept., being the "name day" of the Czar, H. E. the Russian Minister and Madame Comany are giving a diplomatic dinner.

Sheng Tsui-tai of Chetoo and his adviser Mr. Bohn, with Mr. Henningsen of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, are here at present. It is rumoured that H.E. von Brandt leaves Europe for China by the German mail of September 30th. H.E. the Russian Minister is reported about to make a visit to Tientsin and Japan. The students came out yesterday from the third and last examination. Harvesting has begun.—N. C. Daily News.

CHRISTIE'S AUCTION ROOMS.

SKETCH OF THE HISTORICAL LONDON CONCERN.

In December of 1766—though authorities are divided as to the precise date—James Christie held his initial public auction at the old Academy rooms next to the Cumberland House, in Pall Mall. Two years later he entered into an agreement with the Free Society of Artists—at that time even a moribund institution in an advanced stage of decomposition—to let them his "great room" for a month every spring for the purposes of exhibition; but he soon found his tenants more trouble than profit, and in 1774 he got rid of them, himself moving later on to the house immediately to the west of the War Office. By this time the worthy Mr. Christie was regarded as a public man of considerable importance, and his own sphere of his room was the rendezvous for the "women of fashion" and "persons of quality," while he himself—a rare proof of popularity—was introduced into the caricatures of Rowlandson and Gillray, with much courtesy and good feeling, a singular treatment in those days of biting satire, when no weakness was spared, no failing condoned, and when prosperity no less than misfortune seldom failed to attract the merciless prick of the caricaturist's etching-needle.

For a long time James Christie cared not what he sold—was as fish that came to his net, whether works of art or objects of commerce. Running over the list of the early catalogues of the firm we find curious medley falling to his hammer. Pictures, books, gems, armour, jewelry, plate, wine, furniture, houses, estates, stained glass, music, brewing and mechanical patents, stuffed animals and birds, and orange, lemon, and pomegranate trees—a list long since restricted in the comprehensiveness of its limits. But the picture sales were of course the chief attraction to the fashionable world on "private view day," and then, as now, some of the finest exhibitions of works of art ever held could be inspected by the first passer-by without out or hindrance. Here in the early days we are told, came Johnson, Goldsmith and Reynolds, the latter with an early formed love for auction-rooms, for he used to tell with pride how when a boy, he shook the great Mr. Pope by the hand in such a sales-room. Charles Fox, too, and Edward Gibbon—brilliant young fellows, each in his own manner, and surrounded by a knot of dashing young sparks, brave in fine costumes and powder, and glib of oath. David Garrick, Hume, and Kitchin—apart from the pole. Here, finally, on one memorable occasion, came the great Earl of Chesterfield, now decrepit and deaf, emerging from his proud retirement solely to oblige Mr. Christie with his recollections of the pictures on view, with many of which he had become acquainted on his travels. He arrived in his state coach, and six, the grand company respectfully making way for him as, leaning on Mr. Christie's arm, he moved slowly round the room, criticising each picture as he went. Every word that he uttered was worth listening to, and a man of scrupulous honour, for the fame of the well advertised sale spread far and wide and crowded the room with bidders by the time the sale began.

At last, in 1803, Christie the first (called by Dighton the "Specious Orator") was gathered unto his fathers, but not before he had raised auctioneering to the dignity of a fine art. "With an easy and gentlemanlike flow of eloquence," ran his funeral oration in the "Annual Register," "he possessed in a great degree the power of persuasion, and even tempered his public address by a gentle refinement." Add to this that he was a fine connoisseur and a man of scrupulous honour, and you have the qualities on which are established the foundations of the house. James Christie the second, though originally intended for the Church, succeeded to his father's rostrum—the more congenial pulpit of the two—and to his predecessor's estimable characteristics he added a scholarly learning which broke out into such words as his "Disquisition upon Etruscan Vases," "Greek Vases," inquiries into "Mythology," and so forth, and further provided a constant outlet for his ecclesiastical by the introduction of whole-

page criticisms and commentaries into his sale catalogues. During his lifetime, in 1825, the firm removed to their present premises in King Street, on the spot previously occupied by Wilson's European Museum. Here the octagonal room—the "gallery without corners"—would that all galleries were so constructed!—was erected at the suggestion, given long before, it is said, by old Caleb Witford, wit, wine merchant, dandy, dilettante and amateur dealer; a haunter, too, of the "snuff" of Queen Charlotte's effects, and in the admirable caricature wherewith George Cruikshank has immortalized the event, the Prince Regent is represented in the rostrum, while an excellent portrait of Mr. Christie hangs on the wall. In 1830, on the death of the second of the dynasty, Christie the third entered into possession, and was soon joined by Mr. Manson. On the death of the latter gentleman, in 1851, Manson the second appeared on the scene as partner, but he has since been "bought out." Then the third Christie, who died in November last, gave way to James H. Christie, while Mr. Woods has brought fresh blood, increased prosperity, and a great name for charity to the house. This rather complicated history was some time ago neatly expressed in a nutshell in the following doggerel—

The date is uncertain and misty
When the accomplished original Christie
First "put up" and "bought out" his goods;
But we know the great auctioneer's grandson
Took unto himself Mr. Manson—
Later appeared Mr. Woods.

Some years since Crookford the notorious gambling club in St. James' Street (where the Emperor Louis Napoleon, during his residence here, was one night cheated out of £2000), was taken by a joint stock company with the avowed intention of establishing a rival concern and smashing the monopolizing Christie. It was therefore converted into an auction mart, but, like the earthen pot in the fable, it very soon destroyed itself in its collision with the stronger vessel. Since that time Christie's has reigned supreme in its own particular sphere, with none so bold as to enter into open rivalry or proclaimed hostility.—*Magazine of Art.*

Today's Advertisements.

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE Steamship
"AMOEY"
Captain Th. Liemann, will be despatched for the above Port, TO-MORROW, the 26th inst., at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SIEMSEN & CO.
Hongkong, 25th September, 1889. [1185]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY & TAMSUI.
THE Company's Steamship

"HALLOONG."
Captain Goddard, will be despatched for the above Ports, on FRIDAY, the 27th instant, at 10 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LARPAK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 25th September, 1889. [1186]

TO LET, (FURNISHED).
FOR six or seven months from 1st proximo, a desirable Winter Residence known as "TERRA VERDE" on the Upper Richmond Road. Water and Gas laid on. Grass Tennis Court.

For terms, apply to
H. SHEPPARD.
Saadkan, 25th September, 1889. [1187]

Auctions.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION,
No. 401.

GOVERNMENT Notification No. 392 of the 14th instant is hereby cancelled, and the following is substituted in lieu thereof.
By Command,
ARATHOON SETH,
for the Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 21st September, 1889. [1156]

Particulars of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 30th day of September, 1889, at 4.30 P.M., by Order of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, of One Lot of CROWN LAND, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 999 Years.

The Government reserves the right of way through this Lot as shown on the plan.

Particulars of the Lot.

No. of Registered Land	Locality	Boundary Measurements	Contents in Annual Upset
201	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
202	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
203	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
204	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
205	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
206	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
207	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
208	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
209	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
210	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
211	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
212	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
213	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
214	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100
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277	South of Kennedy Road and adjacent to the railway	100 feet by 100 feet	100

Intimations.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.
THE KWON KWAN YEEN CUPS.

THE Second Stage of the Second Competition will be shot off next **SATURDAY**, the 28th instant, at 2.45 P.M., commencing at 400 Yards. Entries for this Stage close on **FRIDAY** next, the 27th instant, at 5 P.M. Entrance Fee 30 cents.

The Members are hereby notified that the Range will not be open for practice on **TUESDAY** and **WEDNESDAY** next, the 24th and 25th instant.

A. SHELTON HOOPER,
 Hon. Secretary,
 Hongkong, 21st September, 1890. [85]

MERCANTILE MARINE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

UNTIL the NEW PREMISES are ready the above named Institution will be carried on at Nos. 2, 4, and 6, High Street, above the Government Civil Hospital.
 Good Accommodation for M. M. Officers.
 Terms Moderate.

JAS. EDWARDS,
 Proprietor.

J. A. CLARK,
 Teacher of Officers and Engineers.
 Above Address.
 Hongkong, 2nd September, 1889. [1092]

THE HONG'ONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL \$5,000,000.
PAID UP CAPITAL 2,500,000.
RESERVE FUND 1,250,000.

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 Hon. C. P. CHATER, Managing Directors.
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THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

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Commission, business relating to land, etc.,
conducted.
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pany's Offices, No. 5, Queen's Road Central.
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.

Victoria Buildings
Hankow, 3rd May, 1889. [532]

LOST.

THE Underrated 100 SHARES of the
HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION, being the Property of the un-
derigned, bearing the No. 1887, the Public are
warned against negotiating the same.

Certificates in name of

	Scrap No.	No. of Shares.
		{ 3465/6, 4045/52,
50 Shares, L. Mendel, B. 2071		{ 21341/55, 14189/92,
		{ 51692/712.
10 Shares, W. D. Spence, B. 2099		{ 3380/3189.
25 " " Do. B. 2134		{ 53909/23, 57342/46,
		{ 1406/10.
15 Shares, W. H. Gaskell, B. 2266		{ 27918/27932.
	H. N. MODY.	
Hongkong, 9th September, 1889.		[1122]

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

DURING THE Paris Universal Exhibition of 1889, files of the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" will be kept at the Office of our correspondents, Messrs. AMADEE PRINCE & Co., 36, Rue Lafayette, and also at the Pavilion of the Republic of Guatemala in the Exhibition, which may be consulted at any time by visitors from the Far East.

Subscribers to this journal may have their certificates, papers, etc., addressed to the care of Messrs. AMADEE PRINCE & Co., whose services will be placed at the disposal of all enquirers.

[318]

Hongkong, 11th March, 1889.

KOWLOON HOTEL.

J. C. L. ROUGH.....MANAGER.

**WINE and SPIRITS of the best quality,
ENGLISH & AMERICAN BILLIARD
TABLES, BOWLING ALLEYS, TENNIS-
LAWN.**

[112]

Hongkong, 21st January, 1889.

FOR SALE, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,
WATERBURY WATCHES,
 the Handiest, Cheapest, and Best
 Time-keepers invented.
\$8 PRICE THREE DOLLARS EACH \$8
REPAIRS NEVER EXCEED 50 CENTS
 for each Watch.
 Orders from Outports to be accompanied with
 Remittance for Cost.
THE MITSU BUSSAN KAISHA,
 (Sole Agents in Japan and China
 for the Sale of the above Watches.)

Opposite Marine House.
Hongkong, 22th August, 1888. (1047)

G. FALCONER & CO.,
WATCH and CHRONOMETER MANU-
FACTURERS and JEWELLERS.
NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,
CHARTS and BOOKS.
No. 28, Queen's Road Central. (743)

**HONGKONG TIMBER
YARD, WANCHAI.**

OREGON PINE SPARS and LUMBER
Always on Hand.
L. MALLORY.
Hongkong, 24th June, 1881. (783)

FOR SALE.
AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

**ACCORNS, SHERRY, PORT, CLARET,
HOCK, BRANDIES, WHISKIES,
MACHINEERY, GAS ENGINES, SINGER'S
SEWING MACHINES, SCALES, PAINTS,**

TRICYCLES. SODA WATER MACHINERY.
EYE'S SANITARY COMPOUNDS.
Apply to
W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
Bank Buildings,
Hongkong, 19th June, 1888. 1763

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